Number of women clerks in the Secretariat.

* 417 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri M. Rajeswara Rao, who gave notice of the question is not in his place. The question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of women clerks working (i) in the Board of Revenue and (ii) the Madras Secretariat on 31st December 1952;

(*b*) how many of them are (i) Tamil-speaking and (ii) Telugu-speaking women; and

(*c*) the number of them belonging to (i) Scheduled Castes and (ii) Harijan Christians?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

Rural Water-supply Scheme.

* 418 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Five-Year Programme of Rural Water-supply Scheme begun in 1948–49 will be extended for a further period of five years; and

(*b*) whether repairs to drinking-water tanks will be taken up under this scheme?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) This programme has been dovetailed with the Five-year Plan and will be in force up to the year 1955–56.

" (*b*) Generally, repairs to drinking water tanks which are not sources of protected water-supply, are not taken up under the Rural Water-supply Scheme. Local bodies are responsible for effecting the necessary repairs to wells handed over to them."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that in certain dry parts of the State no water could be found in wells sunk to a depth of even sixty to seventy feet, will the Government consider the advisability of revising the policy of subsidizing rural water-supply by digging wells? Will they consider the advisability of changing their policy to repair the drinking water tanks which are the only sources of drinking water in certain parts? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government are paying out of State funds the amounts necessary for sinking new wells and for deepening the existing wells and the amount that has been paid in this way has increased from year to year since the scheme began."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 89 infra.

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" My question has not been answered, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will allow the hon. Member to put the question again."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" The Hon. Minister said that in respect of tanks which have been handed over to the local bodies the Government have no responsibility. May I know, Sir, what the Government proposes to do to ensure drinking water-supply to the people in those cases where the local bodies do not carry out the necessary repairs for want of funds? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I said the Government are paying from State funds the amounts necessary both for sinking new wells and for deepening existing wells. The responsibility for carrying out repairs to tanks handed over to local bodies rests with them."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Under the scheme of protected water-supply, the Government grant funds only to sink wells. There are places where even if you sink wells to a depth of sixty or more feet, you cannot find water. Unless there is water in the drinking water tanks in those places, the people will suffer. So, instead of granting money to dig wells, I would advise that the money should be given for repairing the tanks."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member must put the question and not advise the Government."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" I ask whether the Government will consider the advisability of changing their policy? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This matter has to be considered."

Expenditure incurred on Republic Day Celebrations.

* 419 *Q.*—SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR (on behalf of Sri M. Kalyanasundaram) : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the total amount of expenditure incurred by the Government in connection with the celebration of the Republic Day on 26th January 1953 in the City of Madras and in the districts?

11-10 a.m. THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Rs. 5,477 in Madras City and Rs. 2,554–4–0 in the districts."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :—" இதில் வாணவேடிக்கைக்கு செலவு செய்யப்பட்ட தொகை எவ்வளவு என்பதை கனம் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லுவாரா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" இப்பொழுது நான் சொன்னதில் அது அடங்கி இருக்கிறது."